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# EASTERN

F.O. 371

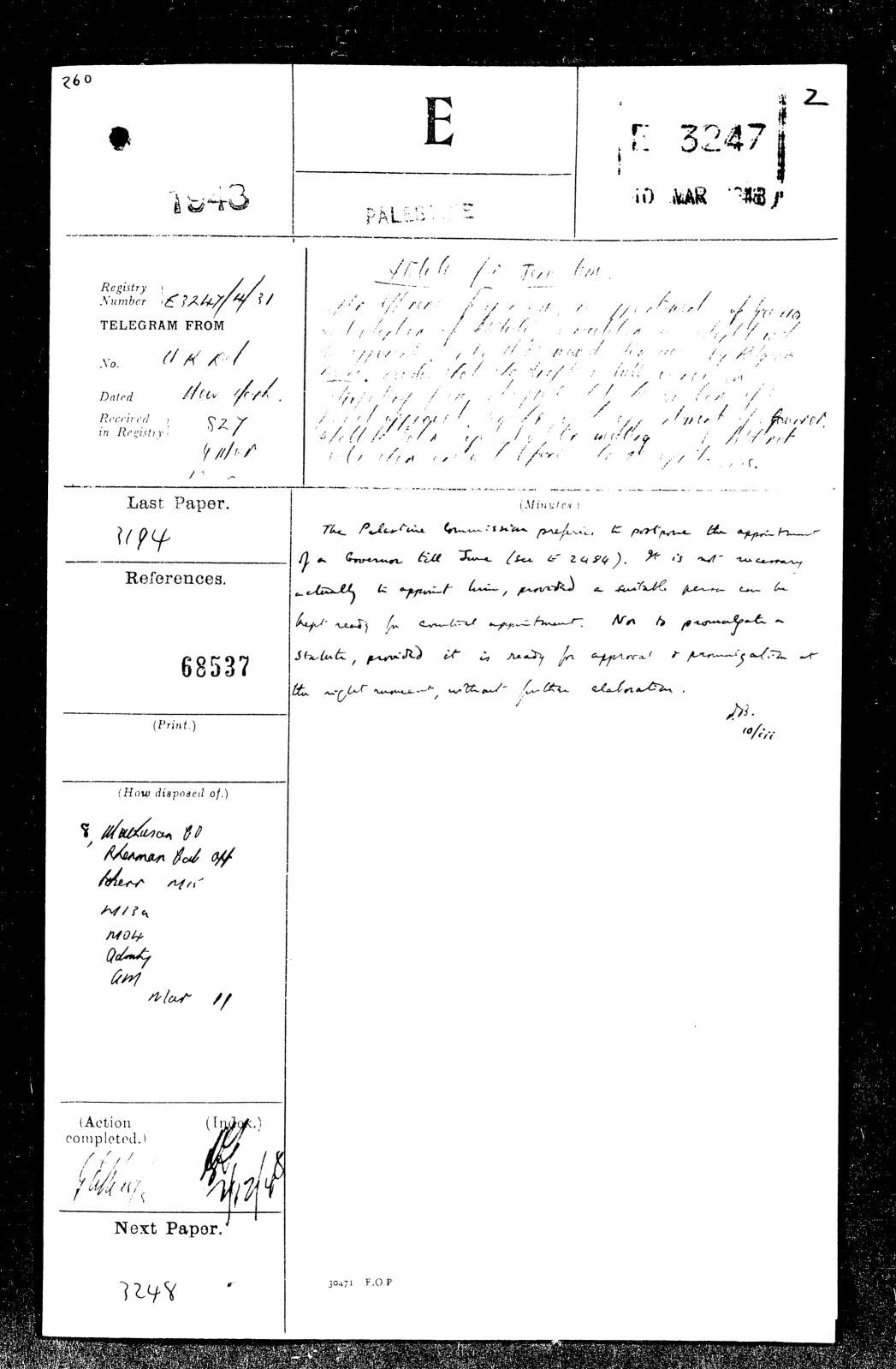


PALESTINE

FILE No. .... 4

pp 3247 - 3430

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE Reference:
1 2 3 4 5 6 FO 371/68



PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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Cypher/OTP

NEW YORK CAS TRUSTEESHIP DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From Permanent United Kingdom Lisison Mission in Japan)

No. 827.

D. 9.32. p.m. 9th March 1948.

9th March 1948.

R. 2.55. 2. m. 10th Merch 1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem, Washington, Saving.

MOST IMMEDIATE

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Confidential

Addressed Foreign Office (for Colonial Office) telegram No. 827 March 9th repeated for information to Jerusalem and saving to Washington.

Following for Martin, C.O., from Burns.

Statute for Jerusalem.

This morning at private session called to decide on action regarding appointment of Governor and adoption of statute, differences of opinion quickly developed between members who wished to approve Statute forthwith and others who desired to postpone a decision until just before 29th april on grounds that present uncertainty did not justify us in completing our work.

2. I endes voured to impress on members need for urgency and fact that completion of Statute was merely mechanical act imposed on us by Assembly. No agreement could be reached and after luncheon formal meeting was adjourned a few minutes after opening and further private session continued. After much discussion, on a show of hands five voted for postponement (Belgium, Mexico, Australia, Iraq and New Zealand) and four for immediate adoption of report (United Kingdom, United States, France and Costa Rica), with two abstentions (China and Philippines) After much further discussion which wendered around the point in more than the usual way, a resolution was agreed to with two opponents, (China and Philippines) and will be moved tomorrow afternoon by Belgium. Operative part of this resolution is as follows:-

/[Begins]. Decides

[Begins]

Decides that the draft statute is now in satisfactory form and agrees that the question of its formal approval, together with the appointment of a Governor, shall be taken up at a later meeting to be held not later than one week before the 20th April.

[Ends].

- 3. I believe that this will be agreed tomorrow and that Council will then go into recess until some date late in April to be notified by the President.
- 4. We are also to meet again in private session tomorrow to discuss selection of Governor, but it is probable that no decision on this matter will be taken until the April meeting.
- 5. I cannot explain sudden change of feeling among members. Australia led the movement for postponement which was heartily supported by Iraq for entirely different motives.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 189.

> [Copy sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem.]

[Advance copy sent to Duty Officer Colonial Office.]

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[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be as retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on].

Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 828

D. 9.44 p.m. 9th March, 1948

9th March, 1948 R. 3.13 a.m. 10th March, 1948 Repeated Jerusalem Washington

<u>IMMEDIATE</u>

SECRET

<u>GIANT</u>

Addressed Foreign Office telegram No. 828 9th March repeated Jerusalem and Washington.

Your telegram No. 1054. E 3766/

Palestine.

At meeting of permanent members of Council which I attended today a number of questions were asked (chiefly by Austin) concerning extent to which Palestine disorders were due to introduction of troops, arms, etc. from outside Palestine. I am telegraphing separately details of these questions, also reply to paragraph 2 of your telegram under reference.

2. As expected Austin (supported by Gromyko) also put to me question whether in opinion of His Majesty's Government present situation in Palestine constituted a threat to international peace. In accordance with instructions I refused to express a view on this point and referred permanent members to factual information furnished to Commission.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 190.

[Copy sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

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		10 MAR 1948
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PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

FO 371/68537

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[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on] Cypher/OTP DEPARTMENTAL

FROM BEIRUT TO FOREIGN OFFICE 3257

Mr. Houstoun Boswall

No. 178 6th March, 1948.

D. 10.23 a.m. 6th March, MARS. 948
R. 11.30 a.m. 6th March, 1948.

Addressed to Jerusalem telegram No. 30 of March 6th repeated for information to Damascus, British Military Mission Amman, Jedda, Cairo, United Kingdom Delegation New York Charlound

Secret

Your telegram No. 41 to Cairo. (6 325

I have made point with Lebanese Prime minister. He appreciated it and undertook to pass on this advice to the proper quarter, though he said he hoped the Arabs "who had visibly made many mistakes hitherto" would not contemplate any such folly.

[Copy sent to middle Hast Secretariat]

FFFF



## AMENDMENT SLIP

# DEPARTMENTAL

Beirut telegram Ne. 178 ef 6th March te Fereign Office.

In preamble insert

"Kharteum" between "Caire" and "United Kingdem".

Communications Department
9th March, 1948.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE Reference:
1 2 3 4 5 6 FO 371/68537

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# COLONIAL OFFICE TELEGRAM

En Clair

3251 4

FROM PALESTINE (Sen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 13th March, 1948. R. 13th " " 19.45 hrs.

No.636A

INDEXED

Your telegram No. 939.

Beirut telegram No.30 to me relates to my telegram to Cairo No.41 repeated to 5. of 5. cs my telegram No.547 and to other grab posts.

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Foreign Office - Communications Department.



# COLONIAL OFFICE TELEGRAM

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 13th March, 1948. R. 13th " "

19.45 hrs.

No.636A

Your telegram No. 939.

Beirut telegram No.30 to me relates to my telegram to Cairo No.41 repeated to S. of S. as my telegram No.547 and to other Arab posts:

Copy sent to:-

Foreign Office

- Communications Department.

26513 F.O.P.

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75872/159/48 <u>Secret</u> 6th March, 1948.

ME Burrows for obs.

My deas Unit.

MICS.

I enclose, for your secret information, copies of two recent sersonal letters from the Figh Coumistioner for Palestine.

17.17092

(J.M. Mortin)

11 MAR 248

M.R. right, Esq., CAG.

FO w

371/68537

HT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO E CED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WIT MISSION OF THE PUBLIC OFFICE, LONDON From: General Sir Alan Cunningham.

2nd February, 1948.

Dear Martin,

I should perhaps place it on record that during the. past week I received Rabbi Silver for an interview at his request and also went over to Shuneh for lunch with King boullah, also at his urgent request, though of course unofficially.

I do not know whether Dr. Silver is known in the Colonial Office. I had not met him before. He is very merican and of impressive appearance for a Jew, tall and robust. He is without doubt a forceful character, but I doubted whether his Jewishness really took pride of place over his Americanism. Time will show as he is tipped for Vice President to Weigmann's presidency in the Jewish State.

He surprised me by telling me that he is leaving Palestine for America shortly and will not return for the Congress meeting here billed for March 1st.

He spent some time trying to persuade me he was not anti-British.

The main points he sished to put over to me were the need for the Commission to come to Palestine as soon as possible, and the removal of what he called the "blanket" of British obstruction to the formation of the Jewish State.

He reacted well to the suggestion that whatever else happened it was essential that the safety of Jerusalem should be ensured.

He is convinced that some form of international force is required in Palestine and favours it being found from small powers so as to exclude Russia.

He was very full of the Jewish accusations that our security forces are not sincere in their statements of impartiality and are not protecting the Jews. I was able to give him some home truths on this point, of which he had plainly been kept in ignorance.

He left remarking to my Private Secretary that he as now /a clear that it was/time for cool heads and not hot ones, so perhaps we can hope that he are lies this remedy to his own head first!

The visit to baullah was more to meet his desire to maintain a personal friendship, but I had a long converation with him on the present position.

He said the rejection of the Iraci treaty had undoubtedly been engineered by Tgypt, who really as only interested in her oun affairs, but would use the other Arab States to her own advantage and then wash her hands of them when she had obtained satisfaction.

Эe

J.M. Martin, Esq., CB., CVC. Colonial Office, Church House, Great Smith Street, LONDON, S.W. 1.

PUBLIC

FO 371/68537

He was clearly most distressed at our leaving Palestine and asked me once or twice if we were not going to stay on whatever happened. On the Palestine question he was gloomy. He said that every Arab criminal in the Mid-East was pouring in there and that he had told an ex-member of the rab Higher Committee whom he thought had been sent to spy out the land in Trans-Jordan, that they were creating chaos by letting these people in, and the latter were ready to shoot anyone, including Arabs, for loot. He had been questioned closely by the same man as to the intentions of the present treaty revision and he had replied as far as he was concerned, it was to strengthen his connection with England.

He told me that if he could have got there in time he would personally have stopped the first incursion of Fauzi Kawakji's men through Trans-Jordan into Palestine, and said he would see there would be no more such incidents. (NB. It appears however that he has been unable to stop a second incursion).

He described the areas in Palestine where he himself had a following as being Nablus and Hebron and made some non-committal remarks about that action he would take when we went.

He complained of the exodus of Palestinian Arabs into Trans-Jordan through fear of the present security situation. He said they were all arriving thoroughly anti-British and hence might give him trouble.

Then I made some remark as to the essential need to safe-guard Jerusalem, he immediately asked whether he should take it over when we left. I replied hastily that I was sure satisfactory arrangements would be made.

I took the opportunity to bring up the question of the complete intransigeance of all the grabs at present and the folly of their rejection of any policy of negotiation or conference. They had a strong case against the details of the present partition plan. He said he fully agreed but deplored his position of standing alone in the Arab league as a supporter of such a policy.

Although he was quite cheerful and the usual charming host I gained the impression that he is most unhappy at the turn events are taking.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) A. CUN I'GHAM.

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COPY

From: General Gir lan Cunningham.

Wigh Commissioner for Palestine Jerusalem.

24th February, 1948.

Dear Fartin,

Thank you for your letter of the 12th. eizmann continues to write to me too informing me of his plans and seems determined to do his best to keep in with us. He will find it difficult here, where hatred of the Jews for us is being facined to viatriolic proportions by every means they can find. Deceit and lies seem Polestine's portion and I am afraid neither Jews nor wrabs have any longer any sense of moral obligations. The blowing up in Ben Yehuda Street was at once announced by the Jews to have been beyond doubt done by the British, without a shred of evidence in support, other than the fact that British vehicles and uniforms were employed, a fevice they themselves have been using against both us and the rabs continually. Indeed in another place 20 Jews dressed in British uniform tried to rob a Berclay's Bank on the same day!

They themselves introduced these methods in the King David, the Goldsmith Club and later the Semiramis Hotel. But apparently if done by a Jew it is alright, but by an Irab or Gentile, it must shock the world.

You ask about the position in Samaria, the whole rab situation is most unpredictable. The rab League seems to be thinking on the lines of spheres of influence! Syria in the North, the Mufti in Jerusalem and the centre and Agyot in the South. These are the military commands which I assume must be at any rale loosely based on future administration. The Defence Party in Nablus appear to have welcomed if not connived at Fauzi Quakji's men coming in from Syria. This is stronge for they are as you know backers of Abdullah and, as I think I told you, he still thinks that Nablus and Hebron are his for the walking in.

I am rother inclined to think that matters will crystalise comewhat on the lines of certain areas being under the control of the Mufti and the various states, and that the latter appreciate that if they fight amongst themselves they have no chance of defeating the Jews.

The most likely arrangement seems to be Eastern Galilee to Syris, Samaria and Hebron to Abdullah, and the South to Egypt, and it might well end in amnexation on this pattern, the centre remaining uncertain.

You will remember our visit to Mr. Bevin (when he cancelled the meeting) and that Ivor Thomas said that Mr. Fevin had only asked one question i.e. whether I thought the wrats would win in the end. I said they would.

I based this opinion then on the supposition that some of the trab States, notably Iraq and Trans-Jordan, would themselves take an active part in any fighting which might ensue, and that the trabs would show some military sense in their operations. Heither of these suppositions have turned out correct up to the moment. There seems to be little sign of any rab State other than Trans-Jordan intending at any time to exert their Juli military strength, such as it is, and spart from the blowings-up, the rab operations have been

1 mentable

J.M. Martin, Esc., OR., OVO., Colonial Office, Church House, Great Chit Street, S.V.1.

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371/685

lamentable from a military point of viev. hen we leave, more of the liberation army will undoubtedly go into action and there will e more bloodshed. But I am much less certain now of the final outcome, purely due to the apparent military inantitude of the rabs. They should be able to paralyse the Jews who depend entirely on open coamunications. But have they the military sense to see this? It he moment they can only think of "killing the Yehudis" and the Jews are winning at that game, as more rabs are being killed than Jews.

on the whole I am inclined to think now that the Arabs will be unable to prevent partition of some sort, even though it looks as if no international force will be forthcoming. In these circumstances then we go presumably Arabs and Jovs will fight it out. I still believe the conflict will be confined to Falestine. I have previously said I am no prophet, but the Arabs should be able to make both the Huleh and the Megev untenable, and the Jevs should be able to hold the coastal plain, so it might well all end in a partition more on the lines of what we would consider fair.

Poor Jerusalem: Is there no may of at the least detac ing her from the conflict? If there was any may of setting up the Jerusalem State outside the UFO Commission it might have a chance, but I recognise it would not be an economic proposition. The alternative is to find an International Force for Jerusalem only, with the object of heeping the city as much out of the conflict as possible. But the Mufti is said to believe in creating chaos and has been instrumental up to the moment in blocking our efforts to have a truce in the Old City. It is a pity that the rab States complied in letting him control this area.

I have been betting on our being asked to stay, as a result of the security countil Mailing to find an international force and referring the question back to the Assembly. From the purely practical angle it would now be impossible for us to remain unless Jews and Arabs agreed to a truce and respect our authority. To get such an agreement would seem a problem as insoluble as most others do with this unhappy country. It might be possible, though the terrorists, now on both sides, would present a constant difficulty.

Yours,

(Sgd) Alan Gunningham.

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261-	
1948	
Registry   E3292/4/31   FROM	
F.O. Minute  No. Mr Beeley.	
Dated 9th March Received in Registry	
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Palestine Situion. Security Council.

THE TOTAL

Copy of letter to Trafford Smith, U. K. Del New York, Was impressed by Colonial Secretary's second speech, asks views on what is likely to happen next, with regard to Security Councils activities.

(Minutes.)	S. Balfer
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PUBLIC

(Action completed.)

Next Paper.

(Index.)

3296

26513 F.O.P.

Foreign Office, LONDON, S.W.1. 9th March, 1948.

My dear Trafford,

I have heard snatches of the Security Council debate over the racio, and was particularly impressed by the Colonial Secretary's second speech, which came over with great logic, force and clarity. I assume that it is not out of place to congratulate you as well as the Colonial Secretary himself?

I should be very interested to know what you thing will happen next. Since all reference to the determination of a threat to the peace has been deleted from the Resolution under unich the delegations to the four powers are not operating, I assume that they cannot make any proposals for action under Chapter 7 of the Charter. At least they cannot co so as a Committee of the Security Council, though it seems possible that Gronyko may try to persuade then that they are not a committee of the Jedurity Council but an independent entity acting perhaps under Article 106 of the Charter. I should have thought, however, that our absence from the proceedings would neme this a difficult case to naintain.

If this is right, I suppose that the real alternatives before the Security Council, when it takes up the Palestine question again, will be to act under Chapter 6 of the Charter (especially Article 36(1)), or to throw in its hand by referring the natter back to the Assembly and recommending that a special session of the latter should be convened.

Perhaps you can also throw some light on the apparently bevildering way in which votes were cast on the 5th March. I carnot understand for instance, why

Trafford Smith. Esq., U.K. Delegation, New York.

Faris/

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SU. 3. 1988

Faris Khoury voted for all parts of the Belgian Resolution, thus incidentally making us appear more Royalist than the King. It also seems a little odd that the Belgian, having moved an amendment with the single object of deleting paragraph I of the American Resolution, should subsequently have voted for that paragraph. The Russians also seem to have stabled the Americans in the back by voting against two paragraphs of that I understood was a joint resolution in its final form. But it is no doubt a mistake to go on trying to understand these proceedings in logical terms.

I do not know whether you talked much with Stavropoulos before he left, or indeed whether his views are those of the legal side of the Secretariat in general. I was interested by his assessment of the situation, which he gave me on his way to take up employment as a cook in Jerusalem, particularly by his belief that the Security Council would not find the situation in Palestine to constitute a threat to international peace. Apparently the Security Council has never yet found that anything constitutes a threat to the peace, and Stavropoulos considers that they will think very carefully indeed before creating this precedent on account of Palestine.

I hope you are not allowing hake Success to over-shadow Manhattan.

Yours ever,

H BEELEY

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PRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH T PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC CORD OFFICE, LONDON They may possibly refugees
who have made their way
from Italy there have been
various reports of such movements

RAJILA

6/V

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WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

#### FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 837

D. 4.47 p.m. 10th March, 1948

10th March, 1948 R. 11.13 p.m. 10th March, 1948 Repeated to Jerusalem,

Washington, British Middle East Office Cairo;

MOST IMMEDIATE

SECRET

LIGHT

GIANT

11 MAR 1948

Addressed Foreign Office telegram No. 837 of 10th March repeated to Jerusalem, Washington and British Middle East Office Cairo.

My telegram No. 828.

Palestine.

My immediately following telegram contains text of eight written questions addressed to me by Senator Austin yesterday.

- 2. Question 8 is disposed of by reply reported in paragraph 2 of my telegram under reference. As regards other questions I pointed out that there was a good deal of relevant information in reports furnished from time to time to the Commission and it was arranged that permanent members could consult these. I undertook however to let them have urgently any further information we could give.
- 3. Additional points which arose during the meeting and on which I undertook to give any information we properly could were as follows. (They were raised by Senator Austin except where otherwise indicated),
- (1) Could we give any information about conversations between His Majesty's Government and Arab Governments concerning incursions into Palestine?
- (2) Do we know anything about arsenals or stores of military equipment outside Palestine intended for use in Palestine?
- (3) What evidence is there of incitement to disturbances e.g. by communications pamphlets etc. from across the frontier?
- (4) What is the nature of evidence of the entry of particular groups e.g. the one of 700 reported some time ago? (5) Is it possible....

89/

- (5) is it possible for aircraft to land in desert areas and so bring in arms etc. without our knowledge?
- (6) (Gromyko) What is the total evidence to date as regards crossing of organised military formations?
- (7) Have we captured any heavy arms whose origin can be identified e.g. mortars?
- (8) (Tsiang) How far is Arab opposition spontaneous and how far fostered by extremists?
- (9) (Gromyko) Apart from question of external assistance are the Arabs in Palestine better armed than the Jews?
- (10) Details of withdrawal of "Abdullah's troops"; did they all leave Palestine at once?
- (11) What evidence is there of activity by Egypt and other Arab States as regards enlisting volunteers and organising their infiltration into Palestine?
- (12) (Gromyko) Is it true that Kawukji has entered Palestine with several hundred troops and established an H.Q. there?
- (13) Have our naval operations led to capture of arms and of persons intending to use them in Palestine?
- 4. See my three following telegrams. (Cairo only see my 2 following telegrams).

Please repeat to Jerusalem most immediate and British Middle East Office Cairo important as my telegrams Nos. 196 and 7 respectively.

[Copy sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

[Repeated to British Middle East Office Cairo]. uuuuu

#### INWARD TELEGRAM

#### TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

#### AMENDED COPY (Correction +)

Opposit (0 Tar )

FROM PALEBOTTE (Gen. Sir a. Grenon, bam).

D. Reth Merch, 1950. Co.ho bee.

Addressed to UKDEL No. 666 (Washington places pass) ACCPOSITION OF COMMERCIAL ACCOUNTS

I have peceived your talegreen [15, 8] T to the Ferengu Office (Secretary of State to me Mo. 947) and No. 859 to the Foreign Office (Secretary of State to me Lo 249) but not (repeat not) your telegrem No.838 and No.820 to the Pereign office.

Following are my comments on additional points set our in paragraph 3 of your No.837.

(1) I presume foreign Office will replace

(ii) Ditie. You will be make of secouse of same destined for Jowe in Pagestine by American and French police.

(111) revenuers of Arab States regularly contain matter which is usiculated to infleme the Arab papulation of Palestine and so be conductive to disturbance in Palestine. At The instance of this deveraged representations have been mone to Lebousso, sycian and Egyptien authorities. These representations in the case of Lebanon in particular here recently resulted in a considerable improvement. It may however be embarrassing to states concerned to let it be known that improvement has resulted from our diplomatio pressure, and subject to views of Foreign Office you may wish to confine reply to statement that inflarmatory matter has appeared in press of neighbouring Arab countries but aisuation in this respect has recently improved. There is no evidence of circulation of pamphlets etc. As to radio I cannot speak since is is not regularly monitored hore. You will of course be aware of Jewish propaganda, including that of the Bougson group in American and other threign pressue, and also of publications such de "Americone for Heguian".

(19) (Inc. atestable ?cost upt group) Palarmatics from

intelligence sources and common reports.

(v) Taport of arms by sireraft inndies in deemet is possible but intimely. It would however be naster for Jows than Arebe in view of better Cocillities white Torner possesse for wareless teleprophy and for distribution of arms after receipt

(vi) see my telegram No.432 to Secretary of State (repeated to MINI No.451). This gives position of to 237d Johnsony. Dinge then numbers of Dicentilen army have been increased by the following incursions -

(a) on or about 21th helemary buby or 500 and 3 1400 tregia. Tebshowe, hyrians, Sagpitans and Transportions safered Curaris and Jaliles seross the Jordan and Velosition -Labaron fract ist

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(b) a best of up to 500 auguslava pacesembly Herman that the same the proposit through Samaria on Fourte so by Scale distributed during filter weer of barch.

(a) On the fact means of small profession or one also Der en exponent une de nor de Samaria.

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(-174) | Long Malentine Araba are malad for these applications de partibles and the opposition is denoted and ty appearance. Juny - Lore unite an thirth ordine are 1, logal and distribute messers करा । क्षेत्रकेव १८६६ । १९६६ केव के अक्षेत्र किल्लाके के बेद्र केविक करें एक १८६६क (१८० करावस करा)

but mount to obstitue to corresply me-

(a) the only force granted phase of the cathod Tabaudakh a leogar as kead begina - keke Cychu ei yake Large are arrung in Priuriane under Figuria communds – April of thems will be in salestand units about 7th day. The days Button in actively con under publican Australy James Talonom ford to a significa-Frontier strain - Latter is an Importal lives, now in genouse. ul distantivest, which has disserted and withdrewn from Talestina theaph for a small number of mee concerned with mechanory of disheasment

(24) Flonty but Foreign Office will presumably suply. (xix) guasaja entered solestine on bih/6th of Musch Fliegodly with his beedquarters staff and a few (repeat a few) went . He was said to be on a visit of inspection of This posts in Palestine". His present wheresbouts and intentions are unknown. No report of catablishment of permenent headquerters has been recolved. You will have come We hope that he has been verproded to leave in a day or two. (3) 11 19

Telegram a from Cit of the Cit of the Miller to Personal Conference terms book tepesion raloscust on Hos. 357 and 950

Coption rout it w BOTHER DIE And David Con. 器型工 研究区域 网络自然有效 - la life bid bid Commission



#### INWARD TELEGRAM.

#### TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

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1. M. Barrows 2. p.w. \$4\$B 13.3

Coypaine (O.T. P.)

PROM FALLSTIME (General Sir A. Condinghos)

D.12th Heren. 1945.

10,00 hrs.



#### NOST IMMEDIATE

Wo. 615 Top Searst.

Addressed to U.K.D.E.L. New York No. 860 (Washington please).
Repeated to the S. of S.
Washington No. 272,

Your belogrem no. 655 to Parsign Office.

Following are comments on oursered questions to supplement the information already provided by ve-

- (1) Answered in my telegrous No. 866 km/literation by small parties constants.
  - (2) Yes.
  - (3) Supposses by Governments unistat Paleotins.
  - (4) Yes. See my telegrem No. 600.
- (5) Certain points of entry are guarded by troops or police, but owing to the length and maters of the frontier, complete control cannot be exercised.
- (6) Disorder has been caused in Paleotice by Jews for the pest two and a half years. When the present disorders commenced in December, Araba responsible were all Paleotinians. Since then both Paleotinian and outside Arab elements have been engaged.
- (7) As far as the Arebs are lowerned, the present disorders in Palestine are only being encouraged from outside to the extent of keeping the temperature of the people from audiling before the Mandate terminates. It is clearly the intention of the Ares Chates to increase encouragement and support on the arrival of the Commission. The affect of outside support to the Java is well known to you.
  - (9) Foreign Office will be iouby reply.

Distributed to: -

Rades Secrotary of State Sir T. Licys Mr. Ross-Williams Sir S. Calge Sir C. Johnson Mr. Holding

Foreign Office (M.O.4.)

Mr. Hartin Mr. Trefford Smith Mr. Ontob Mr. Mathicson

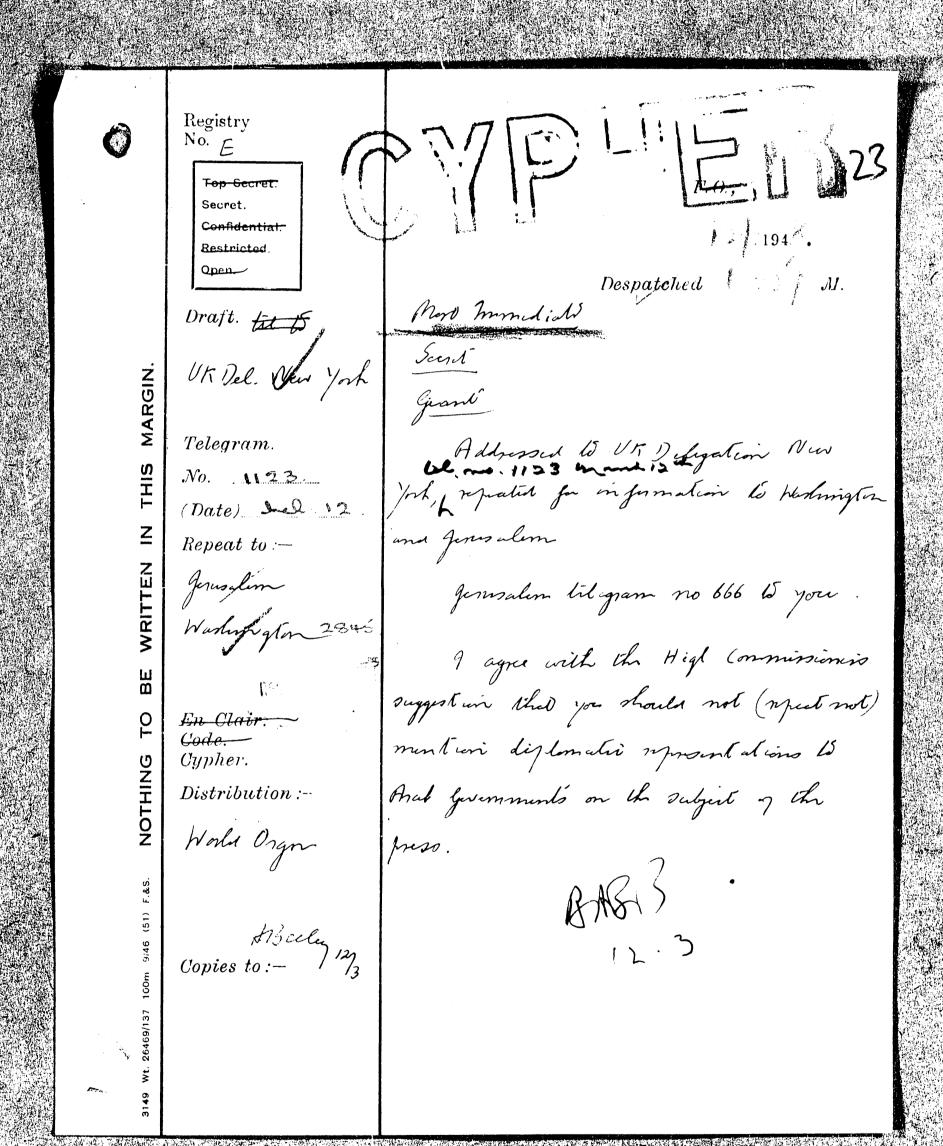
Can Higher Wr. Caleworthy

Mr. Holmer Mr. Dele

Mr. M. Beeley. Mr. Col. Charterie.

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WORLD ORGANISATION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations)

No. 1123

12th March, 1948

D. 1.35 p.m. 12th March, 1948

Repeated to Washington No. 2845 Jerusalem

MOST IMMEDIATE

SECRET

GIANT

Addressed to United Kingdom Delegation New York telegram No. 1123 of March 12th repeated for information to Washington and Jerusalem.

Jerusalem telegram No. 666 to you.

I agree with the High Commissioner's suggestion that you should not (repeat not) mention diplomatic representations to Arab Governments on the subject of the press.

371 /685

### INWARD TELEGRAM.

20 p. w.

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

Cypher (O.T.P.)

3299 4 71

FROM PALESTINE (General Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 17th March, 1948. R. 17th " 17.25 hrs.

No. 674 Top Becret.

INDEXED

Addressed S. of S.
Repeated Washington No.195 (Washington please pass
to U.K. Delegation as my Mo.731).

Following for Fletcher Cooks.

Your telegrem No. 1014.

Incursions into Palestine,

As stated in reply in my telegram No. 666 to additional point (iv), information about the entry into Palestine and activities here of elements of the Liberation Army derived from Intelligence sources and common reports. In the particular instance to which you refer, I regard it as virtually certain that a band of Yugo-Slava did enter Palestine and pass through Nablus in the first week of March. Its numbers are not definitely known and figure of 500 is to be taken as an upper limit. That the Yugo-Slava were Bosnian Moslems is an assumption, but a reasonable one.

2. I see no objection to its being publicly stated if necessary that a band believed to be composed of Yugo-Slavs and of unknown number entered Palestine in the first week of March.

#### Distributed to:~

R. 243 Scoretary of State Sir T. Lloyd Mr. Rees-Williams Sir S. Caine Sir C. Jeffries Mr. Holding Mr. Martin Mr. Trafford Smith Mr. Gutch Mr. Mathieson Mr. Highem Mr. Galsworthy Mr. Holmer Mr. Dale War Office (M.O. 4.) Foreign Office

- Lt. Col. Charteris. - Mr. H. Beeley.

Reference:-

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Next Paper.

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WORLD ORGENISATION DISTRIBUTION.

FROM NAW YORK TO FORMIGN OFFICE.

(From United Lingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 839

D. 5.08 p.m. 10th March 1948. R. 11.24 p.m. 10th March 1948.

10th March 1948. Repeated to Jerusalem

ashington

B.M. J.O. Cairo.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

GIANT. LIGHT.

SECRET.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 839 of March 10th repeated for information to Jerusalem, Washington and B.M.E.O. Cairo.

my two preceding telegrams, Palestine.

questions raised by permanent members (which were all ostensibly put to me as representative of the Mandatory Power) seem to raise an important question of principle as regards our relations with Arab States.

- In your telegram No. 465 you expressed the view that I could not (repeat not) properly provide the United Nations Commission with information on the attitude and policies of Arab Governments, though there was no objection to my giving it factual information about Arab as well as Jewish activities in Palestine. While the questions in my immediately preceding telegram, other than Nos. 3 and 8, are such as can reasonably be answered on the basis of information at our disposal in Palestine, supplementary questions in paragraph 3 of my telegram No. 837 (which were not asked in writing) are clearly directed towards eliciting information and opinions about the policies of Arab States. I am doubtful in particular of the propriety of answering questions (I) and (XI).
- Subject to your views I would propose to take the line in regard to these questions that the Arab Governments have not (repeat not) taken His majesty's Government into their confidence as regards their intentions towards Palestine and that we are in no better position than the

/other permanent members to.....

/68537

# New York (U.K. Delegation) telegram No. 839 to Foreign Office.

2.

other permanent members to assess their policies and intentions.

- 4. As regards remainder of questions, we have sufficient material here to answer at any rate in general terms, but it may not be entirely up-to-date in all cases and we are not (repeat not) certain of the answers to some of the specific questions in my telegram No. 837. Moreover it is not quite clear (see my telegram to Jerusalem No. 125 of February 21st and previous correspondence) how far information in recent Jerusalem Intelligence Summaries can be given to Commission without compromising our sources of information.
- 5. I should therefore be grateful if you and the High Commissioner would telegraph urgently your observations on individual questions in my two preceding telegrams. I should also be grateful for your comments on paragraph 3 above.
- 6. Four permanent members are meeting again temorrow march 11th and are due to report to Security Council by March 15th. I should therefore like if possible to have your replies in the course of tomorrow so as to be able to communicate them to the Four Powers on Friday March 12th.

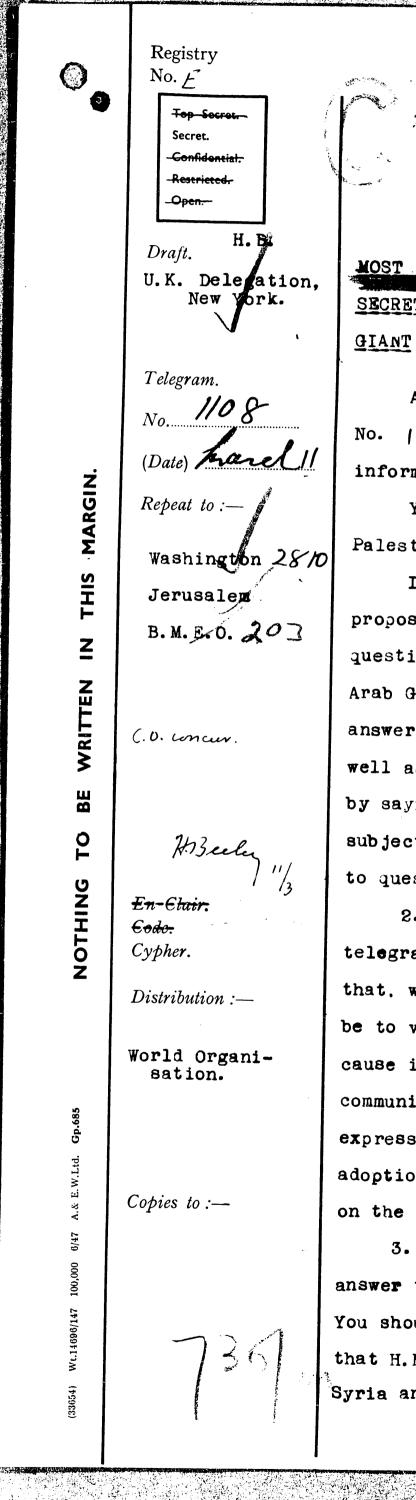
Please repeat to Jerusalem Most Immediate and B.M.E.O. Cairo Important as my telegrams Nos. 198 and 9 respectively.

[Copy sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

[Repeated to B. .. . O. Cairo].

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MOST IMMEDIATE SECRET

Addressed to U.K. Delegation, New York, No. 1108 of March 11 . Repeated for information to Washington, Jerusalem and B.M.E.O.

Your telegram No. 839 [of loth March: Palestine].

I agree that you should take the line proposed in your paragraph 5 when answering questions about the policy and intentions of the Arab Governments. It follows that you should answer question No. 3 in telegram No. 838, as well as question No. 11 in your telegram No. 837, by saying that you have no information on these subjects. The same answer would be appropriate to question No. 2 in your telegram No. 837.

2. In answering question No. 7 in your telegram No. 838, I hope you will make it clear that, whatever external incitements there may be to violence by either side, its primary cause is the strong political feeling of both communities in Palestine. Inis feeling has expressed itself with greater violence since the adoption of the General "ssembly's resolution on the 29th November, 1947.

3. I do not think you can avoid giving some answer to question No. 1 in your telegram No. 837. You should confine yourself, however, to saying that H.M.G. have protested to the Governments of Syria and Transjordan, and have asked them to

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use their best endeavours to prevent a repetition of similar incursions by Arab irregular forces across the frontier of Palestine. - If pressed on this point, you may add that the effect of --our representations is necessarily confined to the period of our responsibility for Palestine as mandatory Power. 4. In answering question No. 10 in your telegram No. 837, you will no doubt disentangle MARGIN what appears to be a confusion between the Transjordan Frontier Force and the Arab Legion You should not offer any detailed information on future operational moves of the Arab Legion, by the fact that it 5. On the remaining questions, you will will have left Palestine by the 15th May. probably have adequate information in your possession already. If Jerusalem consider that additional details or more recent reports are necessary, they will no doubt telegraph these as soon as possible. NOTH

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6. The approach which the four delegations are making to the problem of security in Palestine has the effect of emphasising unlawful activity on the Arab side, while ignoring similar Jewish activity. You will no doubt take an opportunity to counteract this tendency. You might, for example point out, if your answer to question No. 12 in your telegram No. 837 is followed by questions as to the action taken against Qawukji by the Palestine Government, that our experience with Jewish terrorism over a long period shows how difficult it is to deal with the centres of illegal activity in Palestine. Similarly, the facts supplied by Jerusalem with reference to question No. 9 in the same telegram may enable you to show that, despite the infiltration of irregular forces across the frontier, the Arabs are still inferior in military equipment to the jews, so that the picture of a British administration allowing a majority to prepare for the massacre of a minority, is remote from the truth.

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# FROM FOR IGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations)

No.1108 11th March, 1948.

D. 8. 20 p.m. 11th March, 1948.

Repeated to Washington No.2810

Jerusalem

British Middle East Office Cairo No.203

MCST INDEDIATE
SECRET
GIANT

Addressed to U.K.Del. New York telegram No. 1108 of March 11th repeated for information to Washington, Jerusalem and B.M.E.O.

Your telegram No. 839 [of 10th March: Palestine].

I agree that you should take the line proposed in your paragraph 3 when answering questions about the policy and intentions of the Arab Governments. It follows that you should answer question No.3 in your telegram No.838, as well as question No.11 in your telegram No.837, by saying that you have no information on these subjects. The same answer would be appropriate to question No.2 in your telegram No.837.

- 2. In answering question No.7 in your telegram No.838, I hope you will make it clear that, whatever external incitements there may be to violence by either side, its primary cause is the strong political feeling of both communities in Palestine. This feeling has expressed itself with greater violence since the adoption of the General Assembly's resolution on the 29th November, 1947.
- J. I do not thinkyou can avoid giving some answer to question No.1 in your telegram No.837. You should confine yourself, however, to saying that His Majesty's Government have protested to the Governments of Syria and Transjordan, and have asked them to use their best endeavours to prevent a repetition of similar incursions by Arab irregular forces across the frontier of Palestine. If pressed on this point, you may add that the effect of our representations is necessarily confined to the period of our responsibility for Palestine as mandatory Power.

/ 4. In answering

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4. In answering question No.10 in your telegram No. 837, you will no doubt disentangle what appears to be a confusion between the Transjordan Frontier Force and the Arab Legion. You should not offer any information on future operational moves of the Arab Legion beyond the fact that it will have left Palestine by the 15th may.

- 5. On the remaining questions, you will probably have adequate information in your possession already. If Jerusalem consider that additional details or more recent reports are necessary, they will no doubt telegraph these as soon as possible.
- 6. The approach which the four delegations are making to the problem of security in Palestine has the effect of emphasising unlawful activity on the Arab side, while ignoring similar Jewish activity. You will no doubt take an opportunity discreetly to counteract this tendency. You might, for example point out, if your answer to question No. 12 in your telegram No. 837 is followed by supplementary questions as to the action taken against awukji by the Palestine Government, that our experience with Jewish terrorism over a long period shows how difficult it is to deal with the centres of illegal activity in Palestine. Similarly, the facts supplied by Jerusalem with reference to question No. 9 in the same telegram may enable you to show that, despite the infiltration of irregular forces across the frontier, the Arabs are still inferior in military equipment to the Jews, so that the picture of a British administration allowing a majority to prepare for the massacre of a minority is remove from the truth.

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# FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations).

No. 838. D. 4.35 p.m. 10th March 1948. 10th March 1948. R. 9.55 p.m. 10th March 1948.

Repeated to: Jerusalem, Washington and B.M.E.O. Cairo.

MOST IMMEDIATE.

GIANT.

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LIGHT.

SECRET.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 838
March 10th, repeated for information to Jerusalem
Washington and B.M.E.O. Cairo.

My immediately preceding telegram.

Following is text of eight written questions addressed to me by Senator Austin yesterday.

### [Begins]

- l. Have incursions by armed elements from outside Palestine occurred in addition to those already reported to the Palestine Commission by the Mandatory Power?
- 2. Has the Mandatory Power been able to identify
- 3. Are these incursions privately organised by individuals or unofficial groups, or are they supported and encouraged by Governments outside Palestine?
- 4. Are arms now flowing into Palestine from outside sources to individuals or groups unauthorised by the Mandatory Power to possess arms?
- 5. What measures, military and civil, by the Mandatory Power are now in effect to prevent movement of hostile elements into Palestine from outside Palestine?
- 6. To what extent are disorders inside Palestine due to participation by armed elements from outside Palestine?

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/7. To what.

# New York Delegation telegram to Foreign Office No. 838.

- 2 -

7. To what extent are disorders inside Palestine attributable to incitement to violence from outside Palestine?

8. Does the Mandatory Power consider that there is a threat of force against Palestine which now constitutes a threat to international peace?

[Ends].

Please repeat to Jerusalem Most Immediate and B.M.E.O. Cairo Important as my telegrams Nos. 197 and 8 respectively.

[Copy sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office, for most immediate repetition to Jerusalem.]

[Repeated to B.M.E.O. Cairo.]

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FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From United Lingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 840

D. 5.48 p.m. 10th March 1948 R. 11.28 p.m. 10th March 1948

10th March 1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem Washington Saving.

LMPORTANT. GLANT. SECRET.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 840 of March 10th repeated for information to Jerusalem and Saving to Washington.

Your telegram No. 1054 paragraph 2.

Palestine. Position seems to be that the four permanent members consider themselves entitled in view of wide drafting of second paragraph of resolution of March 5th to consider all aspects of Palestine situation despite rejection of sub-paragraphs 2(B) and (C) of original United States draft. Moreover Gromyko certainly and possibly the others would claim that the permanent members did not require a mandate from the Council to confer on all matters within the purview of the Council and particularly the question of a threat to international peace.

2. As you will have seen from my telegram No. 828 I refused to be drawn on this latter question. Then Senator Austin pressed the point on the lines that it was reasonable to expect the Mandatory Power to know whether incursions from neighbouring States were such as to constitute a state of war between those States and Palestine, I replied that the question was not made any easier by being framed in this way which suggested a gloss on the phrase "threat to international peace". In any case I preferred to reserve my position until matter was discussed in Security Council.

Please repeat to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 199.

[Copy sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

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WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGH OFFICE

(From United Mingdom Delegation to United Mations)

No. 842

D. 7.06 p.m. 10th arch 1948

10th March 1948

R. 12.53 p.m. 10th Larch 1948

Repeated to Washington and Jerusalem EIFORT WIT

1. 3317

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram Noul 840ABf 1548 Parch repeated for information to Washington and Jerusalem.

My telegram No. 816.

Palestine.

As background to consultations of four permanent members of Security Council it is of interest that today's press quotes a "Soviet spokesman" (actually Gromyko) as having said to journalists at Lake Success yesterday "some countries are hesitating about carrying out the Partition. We want to carry it out. The United States wants to go back and start all over again on the Palestine problem."

2. Circulation of above report yesterday produced following rejoinder from Senator Austin which is also quoted in today's papers.

[Begins] The United States has noted with surprise the authorised quotation from the spokesman of the Soviet Delegation at Lake Success. As a participant in the consultation authorised by the Resolution adopted by the Security Council on Larch 5th 1948 and proposed in agreement with Mr. Gromyko I regret that the Soviet spokesman has sought to prejudge the issues before the process of consultation had get under way.

As the representative of the United States in the Security Council I can say that my deverament is interested in the facts and in a decision based upon them at the earliest possible date. We shall judge the issues when the consultation is completed. [Ends]

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem as my telegram

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem]

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DEPARTMENTAL

#### FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 853 11th March, 1948 D. 6.31 p.m. 11th March, 1948 R. 11.45 p.m. 11th March, 1948

MOST IMMEDIATE

SECRET

Addressed to Jerusalem telegram No. 204 oll the March repeated to Foreign Office (for Colonial Office) and 548 Saving to Washington.

Following for Gurney from Fletcher-Cooke.

[Begins]

Reference Foreign Office telegram No. 1108 to United Kingdom Delegation.

Palestine.

Big Four are meeting on the afternoon of 12th March to consider report to Security Council. We should therefore be most grateful if additional information to enable us to answer questions set out in our telegrams to you Nos. 196 and 197 can be sent as soon as possible.

- 2. The particular questions regarding which we have insufficient (repeat insufficient) information here are questions 3, 4, 5, 7, 9 and 13 of our telegram No. 196 and 2, 4, 5, 6 of our telegram No. 197.
- 3. I appreciate that it is not (repeat not) possible to give an indication of the arms available to Jews and Arabs but can you confirm the last sentence of Foreign Office telegram to United Kingdom Delegation No. 1108 namely that the Arabs are still inferior in military equipment to the
- 4. Another point upon which we have been pressed by the Big Four is the actual nature of evidence that armed Arabs have entered Palestine from neighbouring countries: e.g. were they seen by our patrol and to what extent have they been identified as non-Palestinian?

Foreign Office please pass most immediate to Jerusalem and to Colonial Office.

[Copy sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for most immediate repetition to Jerusalem].

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].

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### FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations).

No. 848.

D. 2.14 p.m. 11th March 1948.

11th March 1948.

R. 7.55 p.m. 11th March 1948.

Repeated to: Jerusalem and Washington Saving.

IMPORTANT.

BUILD.

12 MAR 1948

CONFIDENTIAL.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.848 of 11th March, repeated for information to Jerusalem and Washington Saving.

Following for Wartin, Colonial Office, from Galsworthy.

My telegram No.728: Jerusalem.

At its final meeting yesterday afternoon Tristeeship Council as we had foreseen adopted resolution text of which is in my immediately following telegram. Ryckmans moved the resolution which was adopted without discussion. Nobody voted against but China, Mexico. Philippines and United Kingdom abstained. Council also decided to transmit statute which is still technically a draft to the Palestine Commission.

2. Garreau then submitted a draft resolution calling upon all sections of the population of Jerusalem to do their best to maintain mutual tolerance and peaceful relations in the Holy City. Ryckmans and Costa Rica supported. It appeared to us, however, to require very careful handling and at Burns' request Gerig whilst expressing himself as very sympathetic to the idea pointed out that it had serious implications and proposed that it should be deferred. This was agreed and Council went into private session. After hearing assurances from Khalidy that such an appeal would provoke the Arabs rather than ensure peace, Council decided to drop the matter.

3. Council also considered further in private session question of appointment of a Governor. It decided to take no further action regarding the panel of names already submitted as the President said he wished to think the matter over further. It was, however, agreed that each member was free to sound any possible candidate in his own name and without in any way committing the Council. Burns'

/impression is

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12 MAR

impression is that the President does not wish to take any definite step at this stage and that nothing will happen before the April session.

4. Before going into private session Council also adopted a United States resolution on budgetary implications of the Statute. Resolution takes note of Documents T/141 and T/142 and requests the Secretary General

(A) to provide such funds as are necessary during 1948 for such activities as may be authorised by the Trusteeship Council on the basis of Parts II and III of T/141 and

(B) with a view to preparation of budgetary recommendations to be laid before General Assembly by Trusteeship Council in September to prepare estimates for 1949 for consideration by Trusteeship Council at its June session.

Australia. Belgium, Costa Rica, France, Mew Zealand and United States voted in favour, remainder abstained with Khalidy reserving position of his Government. Resolution does not authorise any expenditure now. Although it would have been logical to defer action on this question until April session United States wished to settle the matter now in this way because they mistrust Secretariat views on how budgetary provision should be made. Gerig was particularly incensed by Document T/142.

- 5. Council also decided to postpone until April session consideration of Documents T/144 (Instructions to Governor) and T/145 (supplementary rules of procedure).
- 6. Final draft of statute follows by bag. I am sending copy direct to Jerusalem.

Please pass to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 202.

[Copy sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office, for repetition to Jerusalem.]

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775 3.57 145 1948 PALESTINE Registry E3357/4/33 Statute for Jerusalem TELEGRAM FROM Refers New York tel 840 E3356/4/31, U.K. Del, Now transmitst text of Resolution adopted by Trusteeship Council. With reference to the Statute for Jerusalem. No.New York Dated849. Receivedin Registry 11th Mar 12th " Last Paper. (Minutes.) 375-6 References. (Print.) (How disposed of.) 8 Mallaran 8.0 MIZa MO4 admlg (Action completed.) Next Paper. 331-8 30471 F.O.P

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#### TRUSTEESHIP DISTRIBUTION

#### FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 849.

D. 2.0. p.m. 11th March

11th March 1948.

R. 7.15. p.m.11th Merch

Repeated to Jerusalem,
Washington, Saving.

BUILD

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Addressed Foreign Office telegram No. 248 March
11th repeated for information to Jerusalem and saving to Washington.

My immediately preceding telegram.

Statute for Jerusalem.

Following is text of resolution adopted by Trusteeship Council.

[Begins]

The Trusteeship Council having been directed, in accordance with Section C of Part III of the Plan of Partition with Economic Union (Document A/516), to elaborate and approve a detailed Statute of the City of Jerusalem within five months of the adoption by the General Assembly of its resolution on the future government of Palestine - and having completed its discussion of the draft Statute - decides that the Statute is now in satisfactory form and agrees that the question of its formal approval, together with the appointment of a Governor, shall be taken up at a subsequent meeting to be neld not later than one week before the 29th April, 1948 . [Ends].

Please pass Colonial Office also Jerusalem as my telegram No. 203.

[Copy sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem.]

68537

276 1948 PALESTINE Registry | Number | E3358/4/31 Permanent Members Committee. Refers New York tel 828 E3248/4/31, Sir, A. Cadogan was again asked by the Four permanent members to attend their meeting to provide them with informat TELEGRAM FROM U.K. Del Transmits texts of answers that he gave to a number of written questions which were handed to him. DatedNew York Received 854 in Registry See immediately following tel reference question 11th Mar 12th " No,6. Last Paper. (Minutes.) 3357 References. (Print.) (How disposed of.) 8 Macheson 60 Serman for off Lear 111 M04 On E3322 Mar 13 (Action completed.) (Index.) Next Paper.

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Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

# FROM NEW YORK TO FORSIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 854 D. 7.35 p.m. 11th March, 1948 R. 2.25 a.m. 12th March, 1948 11th March, 1948 Repeated to Jerusalem, Washington,

IMMEDIATE

SECRET LIGHT GIANT

Addressed Foreign Office telegram No. 854 of 11th March repeated to Jerusalem and Washington.

My telegram No. 828 and subsequent telegrams. Palestine.

I was again asked by the four permanent members to attend their meeting this morning to provide them with information. A number of written questions were handed to me which I answered as follows:

- 2. Question 1. "We are familiar with statements made by representatives of the Mandatory Power to the effect that it has "accepted" the plan of partition with economic union recommended by the General Assembly. The Assembly's recommendation includes "adoption and implementation" of the plan. Representatives of the Mandatory have made it clear that the United Kingdom Government cannot participate in implementation of the plan. This has led to widespread misunderstanding both within and outside the United Nations, of the position of the Mandatory Power with regard to acceptance of the plan. It would appear to be helpful, therefore, to all concerned if the Mandatory Power could clarify this point". Mandatory Power could clarify this point".
- 3. Answer 1. I said that His Majesty's Government desired to avoid any action which might be construed as obstructing the implementation of the General Assembly's plan: but that they were also determined to avoid taking any active part in the implementation of any plan not accepted by both parties. Hence we had to steer our course in accordance with the necessities of the situation as it developed.
- 4. Austin then asked whether it would be possible to modify His Majesty's Government's timetable if a solution accepted by both parties were discovered, and I answered that our dates were irrevocably fixed.
- 5. Question 2. "Does the Mandatory Power consider that the partition plan can be implemented by peaceful means?"
- 6. Answer 2. We have already indicated our view a backing of force will be necessary. 7. Question 3.

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**6**;

7. Question 3. "Does the Mandatory Power consider that modifications of detail might be made in the proposed partition plan which would make it acceptable to the Jews and Arabs of Palestine?"

- 8. Answer 3. I said that, speaking purely personally, my view was that no modification of detail would make the proposed partition plan acceptable to both sides.
- 9. Question 4. "Does the timetable envisaged in the proposed partition plan now require modification"?
- 10. Answer 4. Not so far as His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom was concerned. We had fixed our dates and proposed to adhere to them.
- 11. Question 5. "Does the Mandatory Power have any suggestion to make in connexion with the statement by Mr. Creech-Jones that "we shall welcome any effort to find a bridge, even at this late hour, across the gulf which now separates the two communities in Palestine?".
- 12. Answer 5, We should, as Mr. Creech-Jones said, welcome any effort to bridge the gulf between the two communities in Palestine: but we ourselves had tried every possible means open to us without success.
- 13. Question 6. "Does the Mandatory Power have any comments on the attached lists of questions which were directed to the Palestine Commission?" (See my immediately following telegram).
- 14. In general I took the line that they were for the Commission to answer and I could not usefully comment. On question 8, however, Austin asked a number of questions relating to the financial position of the Mandatory administration and possible sources of funds available to the Commission or any successor authority. These were answered in detail by Fletcher-Cooke, who laid special stress on the deficit to be expected on May 15th owing to the cost of Cyprus camps and the necessity to pay gratuities etc. on winding up the Civil Service.
- 15. Austin then asked a number of questions designed to elicit the present cost of maintaining order in Palestine. Fletcher-Cooke answered as to the cost of security forces paid for by the Palestine Government, but said that he did not know the cost of maintaining the Imperial security forces in Palestine, but that it was certainly more than the total budget of the Palestine administration. Austin said that if the resources of Palestine in future could not be expected to bear more than the present cost of Palestine Government security forces (i.e. police), some outside agency would obviously (unless the situation improved) have to bear the cost of general security measures at present provided at the expense of the British taxpayer.
- 16. Arising out of question (10) addressed to the Commission, there was some discussion about administrative problems and Fletcher-Cooke outlined the situation which would arise, particularly as regards the four main central services, unless early steps were taken to replace those British Officials who were not (repeat not) prepared to sever [sic]

their connexions.....

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their connexions with the public service and accept employment with the Commission: as volunteers.

17. De Rose of French Delegation handed to Trafford Smith list of questions it is proposed to put to the Jewish Agency and that Arab Higher Committee respectively. Text is in my second following telegram.

Foreign Office please pass immediate to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 205.

[Copy sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

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(Index.)

Next Paper.

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Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

# FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 855

D. 8.18 p.m. 11th March, 1948.

11th March, 1948.

R. 1.32 a.m. 12th March, 1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem Washington

GIANT CONFIDENTIAL 12 MAR 1348 J

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 855 of 11th March repeated for information to Jerusalem and Washington.

My immediately preceding telegram paragraph 13.

Palestine.

Following is text of questions to be directed to Palestine Commission.

[Begins].

- 1. Has the Palestine Commission found sufficient acceptance of the partition plan on the part of
  - (a) the Jews of Palestine
  - (b) the Arabs of Palestine and
- (c) the Mandatory Power to afford a basis for its peaceful implementation?
- 2. Is the Palestine Commission in a position to suggest possible modifications in either the substance or the procedures of the partition plan which might offer a basis for agreement among the people of Palestine?
- 3. If no agreement has thus far been obtained on the partition plan between the Jews and Arabs of Palestine what are the specific points at issue in such disagreement?
- 4. Does the Palestine Commission consider it possible to implement the plan by peaceful means, as a whele or in substantial part?

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- 5. Has the Palestine Commission held further discussions with the Mandatory Power regarding piecemeal relinquishment of the Mandate and if so what were the results? (Page 9 first monthly report).
- 6. Has the Palestine Commission held further discussions with the Mandatory Power regarding the date of arrival of the Commission in Palestine and if so what were the results? (Page 9 first monthly report).
- Has the Palestine Commission taken steps regarding the establishment by April 1st, 1948 of Provisional Councils of Government in the proposed Jewish and Arab States?
- 8. Has the Palestine Commission made any progress in its discussions with the Mandatory Power on the economic matters referred to on page 13 of the Commission's first monthly report?
- 9. What are the minimum conditions which are prerequisite to the administration of the City of Jerusalem by the United Nations?
- 10. Assuming that a possibility for the peaceful implementation of the partition plan develops does the Palestine Commission consider that the transfer of authority from the Mandatory Power to the successor governments can be effected by the Palestine Commission without additional prevision for funds or administrative machinery by the United Nations?

[Ends].

Fereign Office please pass Immediate to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 206.

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

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Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

## FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 856 11th March, 1948.

D. 8.30 p.m. 11th March, 1948. R. 2.39 a.m. 12th March, 1948

Repeated to Jerusalem Washington

IMMEDIATE CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 856 of 11th March repeated for information to Jerusalem and Washington.

My telegram No. 854 paragraph 17.

Palestine

Following are questions to be directed by the Four Powers to the Jewish Agency and the Arab Higher Committee.

2. To the Jewish Agency.

[Begins]

- (1) It is our understanding, according to statements made by representatives of the Jewish Agency, that the plan of partition with economic union recommended by the General Assembly would be acceptable to the Jews of Palestine. It is believed that any comments which representatives of the Jewish Agency may wish to make on this point at this time would be helpful.
- (2) Do you delieve that the partition plan can be implemented by peaceful means by agreement between the Jews and Arabs of Palestine?
- (3) It is our understanding, according to statements made by regresentatives of the Jewish Agency, that the Jews of Palestine are prepared to accept responsibility for Governmental administration and for the maintenance of law and order within the proposed Jewish state. It is believed that any comments which the representatives of the Jewish Angecy may wish to make on this point at this time would be helpful.
- (4) Has any effort been made by Jewish leaders to obtain the agreement of the leaders of those Arabs who would be in the proposed Jewish State to the partition plan and, if so, what were the results?

Which elements in

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- (5) Which elements in the proposed partition plan are considered by the Jews of Palestine as absolutely essential?
- (6) Would modifications in the proposed partition plan make agreement between the Jews and Arabs more possible of attainment?
- (7) Do you consider the principles of the proposed economic union essential to the economic life of Palestine as a whole?
- (8) Will the Jews co-operate with the administration of the city of Jerusalem by the United Nations?
- (9) What guarantees does the Jewish Agency contemplate would be established for the Arab minority in the Jewish State?

[Ends]

3. To the Arab Higher Committee.

[Begins]

- (1) Text is identical with question 1 to Jewish Agency substituting "Arab Higher Committee" for "Jewish Agency" and "Arabs" for "Jews" and inserting "not" before "be acceptable".
- (2) Which specific elements in the proposed partition plan have made it difficult for the Arabs of Palestine to accept it?
- (3) What elements are there in the General Assembly recommendation which could be accepted by the Arabs in a Palestine solution?
  - (4) Same as Jewish question 6.
- (5) Same as Jewish question 7 deleting word "proposed".
- (6) Pending agreement between the Jews and Arabs on a settlement for Palestine, would the Arabs accept a provisional administration by the United Nations of the city of Jerusalem upon the termination of the mandate?
- (7) Has any effort been made by Arab leaders to obtain the agreement of Jewish leaders on the status and protection of Arabs who would be in the proposed Jewish State?
  - (8) are the arabs prepared to accept responsibility

/for governmental

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for governmental administration and for the maintenance of law and order within the proposed Arab State upon the termination of the mandate?

(9) What guarantee would the Arabs of Palestine be prepared to establish for the Jews in Arab controlled areas?

[Ends]

Foreign Office please pass immediate to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 207

[Copy sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem]

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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL

# NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 872 12th March, 1948

D. 5.00 p.m. 12th March, 1948 R. 10.30 p.m. 12th March, 1948

#### IMMEDIATE

#### SECRET

Addressed to Jerusalem telegram No. 210 of 12th March repeated for information to Foreign Office (for Colonial Office) and Saving to Washington.

Following for Gurney from Fletcher-Cooke.

[Begins]

My telegram No. 184, repeated to Colonial Office No. 802.

I have just received the Commission's reply to the specific question contained in paragraph 5 of your telegram No. 581. Commission finds it impossible to give a definite answer to this question for the obvious reason that it could only do so if it were in Palestine and were thus enabled to appraise the situation at first hand. It is pointed out that the Commission must of course act within its terms of reference as defined by the General Assembly's resolution, and the Commission invites particular attention to paragraph 13 of part B of the plan (see page 5 of document A/516 of 25th November).

- 2. The reply also states that the Commission have assumed all along that the Falestine Government will leave intact for the Commission the entire framework of Administration in Palestine.
- 3. As regards paragraph 2 of my telegram No. 184, the Commission has confirmed officially the views I there expressed as to the functions of the advance party.
- 4. I appreciate that this reply from the Commission does not (repeat not) answer your question and is most unsatisfactory, but I do not (repeat not) think that there is anything more to be done in this matter.

Foreign Office please pass Immediate to Jerusalem.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office and to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for retransmission to Jerusalem]

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#### INWARD TELEGRAM



# TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cypher(O.T.P.)

27792 / 4 /7/

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D: 15th March; 1948.

07.00 hrs.

IMMEDIATE

INDEXED

No. 655 Secret

Addressed to S. of S. Repeated to Washington, No. 189 (Washington please pass to UKDEL as my No. 710).

Your belogram No.988 containing How York telegram No.872 to the Foreign Office.

I feel that we should at once repudiate the Commission's suggestion that the reason why they cannot answer the question is that they are not in Palestine. In the light of the Commission's offer of continued employment to all Palestine Government officers we had assumed that it was the Commission's intension to employ them until they could be absorbed by a successor state. In cases where this offer has been accepted, the liability to do so appears to rest already with the Commission,

- 2. If this was not the Commission's intention, as now appears from discussion with their staff here, it is not clear how the offer could have been made. In regard to the assumption that this Government would leave intact for the Commission the entire framework of the administration, this is somewhat sukward in the light of our warnings as regards the staff of this framework/would consist of Jows /4/// only (i.e. about 40 per cent of the total) and that this Government has neither the right nor the power to compel anyone of its officers to serve the Commission.
- J. We have all along been ready and anknows to discuse with the staff sent here by the Commission ways and means of avoiding administrative chaes on the 15th May, particularly in essential common services such as Customs and Posts and Telegraphs. It is most unfortunate in our view that in the absence of instructions from Lake Success, the staff now here appear to be procluded from pursuing these discussions in a useful manner. The consequences of this situation are not to be laid at our door.
- I hope that some answer on these lines can be given to the Commission.

Copies sent to:-

Foreiga Office

- Mr. H. Beeley.

- Communications Dept.

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Your Reference .......

The Church House, Gt. Smith Street, S.W.1.

20th March, 1948.

Dear Beeley,

all her -

I discussed with you the other day the draft of a telegram to the J.K. Delegation, New York arising out of the correspondence ending with Palestine telegram No.655 Secret about the Commission's intentions in regard to the maintenance of Government Departments in Palestine after the termination of the Mandate. I now enclose a draft on the lines which we discussed: if you see no objection, I should be glad if you would arrange to have it sent off.

Yours sincerely,

H. BEELEY, ESQ., C.B.E.

6853

1-5392/4/31. Addressed IS UK Deligation New York, tilegran no 1249y 20th Warch, medies for information from D Washington and Jenesalem (Following) from bolorial Office Sir A. Cødogan, Jerusalem telegram to me No. 655 New York. repeated to you as No. 710. that you should point out to the U.N. Com-Telegram <del>Briof</del> No. 1249. mission that it is difficult to reconcile Inoul JAN. their statement of policy in regard to maintenance of existing conditions Repeat to:
Highcoma
Palestine, of service for all employees of the No.....secret. Palestine Administration with its their ashington, 32 present inability either to give a secret. definite indication of what departments they intend to maintain or to authorise the advance party to discuss Repartmented.
Palestini
asculetani the matter with the Palestine Government. You should also emphasise that their their attitude in this matter will naturally diminish the prospects of ensuring continuity of essential permission services, in. G. hope that they will feel able clarification of Kens intimerious in his malin. to reconsider it and to authorise the

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/advance...

advance party to concert with the Palestine Government arrangements for
achieving the maximum continuity
pessible in the circumstances.

development in the Security Council was howen here, I wind of the changed incumstances you need not for the time being resent we this question with the terminister, but of you should and may still he useful as quidance of the question is raised again by the benemission, for the time being, however, you should not revert to it pairs by take the initiative in reverting to it.

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DEPARTMENTAL DISTRIBUTION

#### FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 1249 20th March, 1948 D. 1.40 a.m. 21st March, 1948

Repeated to Highcoma, Palestine Washington No. 3217

#### IMPORTANT

#### SECRET

Addressed to United Kingdom Delegation New York telegram No. 1249 of 20th March repeated for information to Washington and Jerusalem.

Jerusalem telegram No. 655, repeated to you as No. 710.

Following from Colonial Office.

We agree that you should point out to the United Nations Commission that it is difficult to reconcile their statement of policy in regard to maintenance of existing conditions of service for all employees of the Palestine Administration with their present inability either to give a definite indication of what departments they intend to maintain or to authorise the advance party to discuss the matter with the Palestine Government. You should also emphasise that their attitude will naturally diminish the prospects of ensuring continuity of essential public services, and add that in the circumstances His Majesty's Government would be grateful for some further clarification of its intentions in this matter.

2. The above was drafted before the latest development in the Security Council was known here, and may still be useful as guidance if the question is raised again by the Commission. For the time being, however, you should not take the initiative in reverting to it.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]

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BRITISH LEGATION

MANITA

25th February, 1948.

Sir,

With reference to my telegram No. 1 of the 5th January on the subject of the appointment of Senator Vicente Francisco as Philippine member of the United Nations Com-mission on Palestine, I have the honour to report that, according to the local press, he tendered his resignation to President Roxas yesterday and requested the latter to nominate his successor.

2. Although Senator Francisco has given out that his resignation is due to urgent matters arising out of his private law practice, the local press hints that it has really been prompted by the attacks which have been made upon his position in the Senate by his rivals since his departure. In particular it is pointed out that the President of the Senate, Mr. Jose Avelino, with whom he has long been at loggerheads, has taken advantage of Mr. Francisco's absence to nominate Senator Mariano Cuenco as majority floor leader of the Senate. leader of the Senate.

I have the honour to be,
With the highest respect,
Sir,
Your most obedient, humble Servant,

The Right Honourable Ernest Devin, F.C., M.P., His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Foreign Office,
London, S.W.1.

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	E	E 3429
194.	PALESTINE	MAR :348
Registry   E3429/4/31  TELEGRAM FROM  No. U. K. Del.  Dated Newyork  Received   866 in Registry   866  12th Mar 15th "	Palestine, Formation of Refers F.O. tel No 893, E17 tel No 330.  A reply was sent to Committelegrams and transmitted to P(NY) 36 dated 27th Feb.  Gives views expressed by reply.	713/4/31, and Jærusalem ission based on these of Foreigh Office as
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Next Paper.

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WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

### FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 866.

D. 1.46. p.m. 12th Merch 1948.

12th Merch 1948.

R. 7.08. p.m. 12th March 1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem,
Washington, Saving.

IMPORTANT

SECRET

GIANT

Addressed Foreign Office No. 866 of 12th March repeated for information Jerusalem and saving to Washington.

Your telegram No. 893 and Jerusalem telegram to Colonial Office 330.

Palestine: formation of militias.

A reply based on these telegrams was sent to the Commission and a copy was sent to you as document P(NY)36 dated 27th February. The Commission have now expressed following views on this reply.

- 2. As regards paragraphs 1 to 4 inclusive which dealt with proposed militias, the Commission have noted the replies but find them unsatisfactory (repeat unsatisfactory) in the light of the clear intent of the General Assembly's resolution, and propose therefore to communicate to the Security Council their conclusions in this matter.
- 3. As regards the first sentence of paragraph 5(A) of the reply, the Commission wish to know the quantities and types of arms and stores thus far delivered or handed over to local Palestinian police forces or local authorities Jewish and Arab respectively. Jerusalem will no doubt furnish me with this information.
  - 4. As regards last sentence of paragraph 5 (A) of

/the reply the Commission



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## New York telegram No. 866 to Foreign Office

-2-

the reply the Commission is ready to discuss procedure as regards the taking over of arms equipment stores etc. and assumes in this connexion that some practical proposals on the subject will soon be forthcoming from the Palestine administration. In view of penultimate sentence of paragraph 4(A) of your telegram No. 893, I propose to reiterate to the Commission that the Government of Palestine will discuss procedure for this with the representatives of the Commission's staff already in Palestine; but if Jerusalem have any more concrete proposals to put forward as regards this procedure, I should be grateful if they could be communicated to me.

- 5. As regards paragraph 5 (B) of the reply, the Commission take the view that in referring to "the Commission's own resources" the mandatory power must have been fully aware that at this stage the Commission has no (repeat no) such resources of its own. The response given by the mandatory power is therefore regarded by the Commission as a negative one.
- 6. As regards paragraph 5(E) of the reply, the Commission hope to receive at an early date information as to (1) arms and ammunition (2) motor vehicles (3) police buildings with their locations (4) any other major item of equipment.

Presumably Jerusalem will send these to me as soon as possible.

Please pass important to Colonial Office and important to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 209.

[Copies sent to the Colonial Office and to Telegraph Section CO. for transmission to Jerusalem.]

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Dated

Received in Registry

TELEGRAM FROM

E3430/4/31

U. K. Del,

New York.

881

15th Mar 15th " E

E 3430

PALESTINE

NAR 348

Palestine, Essential Food Imports,

Refers New York tel No, 795 E3119/4/31.

Transmits text of Proposals contained in further communication from Commission, on the question of Essential food imports for Palestine.

Last Paper.

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References.

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(Minutes.)

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4. Pridham.
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30471 F.O.P

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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFIC (From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nation

No. 881

D. 2.25 pm. 13th March, 1948. R. 7.50 pm. 13th March, 1948.

13th March, 1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem Washington saving.

IMMEDIATE

SECRET

Addressed Foreign Office telegram No. 881 of 13th March, repeated for information to Jerusalem and Washington saving.

My telegram No. 795: Essential food imports, Palestine.

A further communication has now been received from the Commission in which the following proposals are made:

"(A) Bread cereals:

The Mandatory Power is requested to purchase immediately through the Government Trading Account at least a sufficient quantity of bread cereals preferably in the form of wheat flour equivalents to complete the allocations fixed by the International Emergency Food Council to 30th June.

#### Sugar:

The Mandatory Power is requested to purchase through the Government Trading Account 5,000 tons of sugar which in addition to the 10,000 tons already laid on by the Ministry of Food would provide Palestine with 15,000 tons of the total of 25,000 tons originally programmed for the whole of 1948.

### "(C) Meat:

The Mandatory Power is requested to grant import ligences immediately for the purchase of frozen nd canned meats to complete up to 1st October at least the proportionate amount of the 1948 allocations of 2,400 tons frozen 1,500 tons canned meats in addition to the 1947 allocated quantities not lifted.

# "(D) Fats and oils:

The Mandatory Power is requested to grant import licences immediately for the purchase of 2,500 tons liquid edible oil,

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5,000 tons commut oil, 500 tons linseed oil to be imported as "oil" or as "material for processing"."

2. Commission contends that it is essential that these matters should be settled without delay since if shipments are not laid on within the next week or so, a serious gap will exist in the supply of some essential foods for Palestine after 15th May. If these proposals are acceptable, Henson, the Commission's food expert now in London. will be instructed to arrange final details.

3. Commission request earliest possible decision in this matter.

Please pass immediate to Colonial Office and to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 212.

[Advance copies sent to Colonial Office and to Colonial Office Telegraph Section for repetition to Jerusalem].

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